

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
just a few companies
control so much of
the airwaves, their
programming too
often depends on
either what's good
for their bottom
line or fits with
their political
views. And we get
less of what our
local communities
need--a focus real
people from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter.

Beyond that, showing
a blatantly
one-sided political
diatribe is a clear
attempt to influence
how viewers vote. It
is simply not fair
that a small
minority, with
sufficient wealth to
buy media companies,
should be allowed to
influence viewers'
opinions this way.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.